

Before the
POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, DC 20268-0001

Competitive Product Prices
Priority Mail
Priority Mail Contract 135

Docket No. MC2015-71

Competitive Product Prices
Priority Contract 135 (MC2015-71)
Negotiated Service Agreement

Docket No. CP2015-109

PUBLIC REPRESENTATIVE COMMENTS ON
REQUEST OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE TO ADD
PRIORITY MAIL CONTRACT 135 TO THE COMPETITIVE PRODUCT LIST

(July 30, 2015)

The Public Representative hereby provides comments pursuant to Order No. 2611.¹ In that Order, the Commission established the above referenced docket to receive comments from interested persons, including the undersigned Public Representative, on the Postal Service's request to add Priority Mail Contract 135 to the competitive products list.

Discussion

Under 39 U.S.C. § 3642(b) the criteria governing Commission review are whether the product (1) qualifies as market dominant, (2) is covered by the postal monopoly and therefore precluded from classification as a competitive product, and (3) reflects certain market considerations, including private sector competition, the impact on small businesses, and the views of product users.

¹ PRC Order No. 2611. Notice and Order Concerning the Addition of Priority Mail Contract 135 to the Competitive Product List. July 27, 2015.

Also pursuant to 39 U.S.C. § 3633(a), the Postal Service's competitive prices must not result in the subsidization of competitive products by market dominant products; ensure that each competitive product will cover its attributable costs; and, ensure that all competitive products collectively contribute an appropriate share of the institutional costs of the Postal Service.

The contract is expected to remain in effect for a period of three years. The contract may be (1) terminated by either party with 30 days' notice to the other party in writing, (2) renewed by mutual agreement in writing, (3) superseded by a subsequent contract between the parties, (4) ordered by the Commission or a court, or (5) required to comply with subsequently enacted legislation.²

Conclusion

The Public Representative has reviewed the Postal Service's Request, Statement of Supporting Justification, attached contract, Certification of Compliance with 39 U.S.C. 3633(a), and the proposed revised changes to the Mail Classification Schedule (MCS). The Public Representative has also reviewed the supporting financial models for the contract filed separately under seal. Based upon that review, the Public Representative concludes that Priority Mail Contract 135 satisfies the criteria of sections 3642(b) and 3633(a), concerning the classification of new competitive products and rates for competitive products, respectively. It also appears the negotiated prices in the contract should generate sufficient revenues to cover costs, thereby satisfying the requirements of section 3633(a).

Lastly, the Public Representative, after reviewing all materials the Postal Service submitted under seal in this matter, acknowledges that the pricing for the Priority Mail Contract 135 comports with relevant provisions of title 39.

The Public Representative respectfully submits the foregoing comments for the Commission's consideration.

² Request of the United States Postal Service to Add Priority Mail Contract 135 to Competitive Product List and Notice of Filing (Under Seal) of Unredacted Governors' Decision, Contract, and Supporting Data. Attachment B. Page 3. July 24, 2015.

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